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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY INFORMATION REPORT

REPORT NO.

25X1A

COUNTRY

SUBJECT

**FLACE** 

Italy

DATE DISTR. 23 March 1948

Sforza to Assume Pro-Western European

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SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.



- Action to be taken immediately following the elections is reported to have been the main subject of discussion at a meeting attended by Prime Minister De Gasperi, Randolfo Pacciardi, and Giuseppe Saragat on 12 Marcho
- Saragat and Pacciardi agreed on the advisability of not reelecting Enrico De Nicola but did not agree on a candidate for a successor. Sagaget favors the candidacy of Carlo Sforza but Pacciardi, who wishes to keep a Republican as Minister of Foreign Affairs, nominated Ferruccio Parri. De Gasperi is said to have objected to Parri on the grounds that he was too much of a party man and suggested that Ivance Bonomi or Vittorio Emanuele Orlando be considered, if agreement could not be reached on Sforza. 25X1A

Comment: The Christian Democratic Party has no candidate of its own since the Director of the Party vetoed the auto-candicacy of Don Luigi Sturzo.)

The other topic discussed was that of diplomatic activity to be carried out in the immediate future. It was unanimously decided that neither Sforza in Paris nor the Italian Government in general should assume too precise commitments which a change of government would cause to be abandoned after a few weeks. Saragat, however, is reported to have noted that Sferza would have to assume a clear pro-Western European attitude to make Italians understand that retention of office by the present coalition would mean sincers support of Italy by the Western Bloc whereas a change in government leadership would result in a threat of international isolation.

De Gasperi and Pacciardi are said to have agreed on this point and Sforza Document No received instructions along these lines

NO CHANGE in Clas .

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